

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 07470 282359Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DLOS-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01
ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
/117 W

-----116083 290018Z /62

O R 282220Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6190
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 7470

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS LOS EC M
SUBJ: ECUADOREAN POSITIONON NEW TUNA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MEXICO 17501 (FROM NEGROPONTE)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TOLD
EMBOFFS THAT ECUADOR WOULD PROBABLY ATTEND NEXT MEETING ON
REGIONAL TUNA AGREEMENT IF IT OBTAINED WORKING DOCUMENTS
EARLY ENOUGH TO PREPARE. HOWEVER, THEY SUSPECT THAT COSPONSORS,
ESPECIALLY MEXICO, MAY NOT FACILITATE PAPEERS. THEY ASKED US
HELP IN OBTAINING DOCUMENTS PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING OF SOUTHWEST
PACIFIC COMMISSION ON NOBEMBER 7. END SUMMARY.

2. DCM AND POLCOUNSELOR MET WITH AMBASSADOR LUIS PONCE, SENIOR
FONOFF ADVISOR ON TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY, AND AMBASSADOR
ALFREDO LUNA TOBAR, DIRGEN BUREAU OF TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUITO 07470 282359Z

ON OCTOBER 26 TO EXPLORE FURTHER ECUADOR'S ATTITUDE TOWARD
MOVES TO NEGOTIATE A NEW TUNA TREATY AND RELATED LOS MATTERS.

3. EMBOFFS NOTED THAT USG HAD UNDERSTOOD AND HAD BEEN
SYMPATHETIC TO ECUADOR'S DECISION NOT TO ATTEND SAN JOSE
CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER BECAUSE OF LACK OF TIME AND ITS
INABILITY TO OBTAIN WORKING DOCUMENTS.

WE HOPED THAT A TENTATIVE MID-FEBRUARY DATE FOR A SECOND CONFERENCE WOULD PROVIDE TIME ENOUGH IN ORDER TO PREPARE ADEQUATELY. EMBOFFS ALSO OBSERVED THAT WHILE IT WAS AWARE OF ECUADOR'S RELUCTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A REGIONAL FISHING AGREEMENT BEFORE A UNIVERSAL LOS CONVENTION WAS ADOPTED, WE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT ECUADOR DELEGATION TO LAST LOS SESSION HAD INDICATED TO USDEL THAT IT WOULD NOT BE AVERSE TO SUCH A STEP IF THERE WAS SOME CONSENSUS ON DRAFT ARTICLE 64 REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES. DRAWING ON THE OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT PROVIDED IN STATE A3095 EMBOFFS REMARKED THAT THE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TEXT ON DRAFT ARTICLE 64 AS A RESULT OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AT THE LOS SESSION APPEARED TO HAVE SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT AMONG OTHER KEY COUNTRIES AND A CONSENSUS WAS BEING BUILT ON THAT BASIS. WE HOPED THAT THIS WOULD ENABLE GOE TO BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE IN SEEKING THE CONCLUSION OF A REGIONAL FISHING AGREEMENT.

4. PONCE EXPRESSED GOE'S GRATIFICATION FOR THE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS ON THIS ISSUE WITH THE US AND THE REMARKS BY US DELEGATE NEGROPONTE ABOUT ECUADOR'S ABSENCE AT THE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE. HE STRESSED THAT ECUADOR WOULD HAVE ATTENDED THE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE IF IT HAD RECEIVED BETTER INFORMATION FROM COSPONSORS MEXICO AND COSTA RICA. WHILE A MID-FEBRUARY CONFERENCE WOULD SEEM TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE, GOE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY DOCUMENTS FROM THE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE WHICH WAS ESSENTIAL IN ECUADOR'S CONSIDERING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUITO 07470 282359Z

WHETHER IT WOULD ATTEND. PONCE AND LUNA INDICATED THAT MEXICO HAD THUS FAR TURNED A DEAF EAR TO GOE REQUESTS FOR THE DOCUMENTS AS IT HAD TO CHILE AND PERU. LUNA SAID THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL TO HAVE THE DOCUMENTS PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE NEXT SESSION OF THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC COMMISSION ON NOVEMBER 7 SO THAT THE THREE COUNTRIES COULD STUDY AND DISCUSS THEM JOINTLY. THEY REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THEM.

5. REGARDING WHETHER A REGIONAL FISHING AGREEMENT WAS DESIRABLE BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF AN LOS ACCORD, PONCE SAID GOE DID NOT SHARE OUR APPRAISAL THAT WE WERE ON THE BRINK OF A CONSENSUS SINCE A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES LIKE FRANCE, NEW ZEALAND, CHILE, TRUST TERRITORIES, DID NOT AGREE WITH THE US ECUADOREAN DRAFT. BECAUSE OF THIS, GOE HAD TO BE CONCERNED LEST A REGIONAL AGREEMENT UNDERMINE ITS JURIDICAL POSITION AT LOS.

6. EMBOFFS SUGGESTED THAT REVERSE COULD BE TRUE AS WELL, THAT IS, MORE HOSPITABLE CLIMATE IN REGIONAL GROUPINGS COULD PRODUCE RESULTS WHICH WOULD FORTIFY ECUADOREAN POSITION AT LOS. ALSO, ANY POTENTIAL DAMAGE COULD BE LIMITED BY

LAWYERLY WORKING E.G. "WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO, ETC..."
PONCE AND LUNA AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT CONSEQUENCES FOR
BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP CONSTITUTED VERY PRACTICAL REASON
FOR SEEKING REGIONAL AGREEMENT. THEY ECHOED FEELING THAT
ALTHOUGH FONMIN AYALA HAD DECLARED THAT TUNA WAR WAS
OVER FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN US MIGHT RESULT IN AN INCIDENT BETWEEN A FEISTY US
TUNABOAT SKIPPER AND AN OVEREAGER ECUADOREAN PATROL BOAT
CAPTAIN.

7. ECUADOREANS ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOMED THE IDEA OF A
VISIT BY NEGROPONTE OR A US TEAM LATER THIS YEAR. THEY
SUGGESTED THE LAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER AS THE MOST APPROPRIATE
TIME.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 QUITO 07470 282359Z

8. COMMENT: WE ARE FAIRLY CONFIDENT THAT ECUADOR WILL
ATTEND NEXT CONFERENCE IF IT IS ABLE TO OBTAIN THE SAN JOSE
CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS IN TIME. WE ARE LESS CONFIDENT OF ITS
ABILITY TO OBTAIN THEM, HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE UNHELPFUL
ATTITUDE OF THE COSPONSORS. ECUADOREANS OBVIOUSLY BELIEVE
THAT MEXICAN ATTITUDE IS NOT ACCIDENTAL, BUT RATHER PART OF
A SCHEME TO DIMINISH THE INFLUENCE OF THE CEP COUNTRIES AND
STREAMROLLER THE CONFERENCE. IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO
OBTAIN GREATER COOPERATION FROM MEXICO?

9. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION IT BECAME APPARENT THAT
EMBOFFS WERE HANDICAPPED BY LACK BY LACK OF BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON
SUBJECT. WE HAD RECEIVED NO SPECIFIC REPORT OF ANY
BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AT LAST LOS SESSION AFTER
MAY 25; WE HAD NOT RECEIVED COPY OF ICNT, WE HAD
RECEIVED NEITHER THE DOCUMENTS NOR ANALYSIS PROMISED IN
MESSAGES FROM THE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE.
BLOOMFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, TUNA, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUITO07470
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770397-0949
Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771010/aaaaahxr.tel
Line Count: 155
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5fcf4923-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MEXICO 17501
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 732577
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECUADOREAN POSITIONON NEW TUNA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EFIS, EC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5fcf4923-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009